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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/737,140	12/13/2000	Andrew J. Fish	042390.P9468	9123

7590 01/11/2006
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EXAMINER

TRUONG, LECHI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2194

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/737,140

Applicant(s)

FISH ET AL.

Examiner

LeChi Truong

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


WILLIAM THOMSON
ADVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-27 are represented for the examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino et al (US. Patent 5,732,282) in view of Kang (US. Patent 6,064,368) and further in view of Stancil (US. Patent 5,951,685).

As to claim 1, Provino teaches the invention substantially as claimed including: a processor (processor 11, col 2, ln 35-65), first computer system units (virtual device drives, generally identified by reference numeral 22(col 3, ln 15-38/ fig. 2), receiving information (information, calling information, registered information, col 3, ln 15-38, col 4, ln 21-42), memory (registration 20, col 3, ln 35-65/ col 4, ln 21-42/ registration data base, col 5, ln 45-50/ fig. 2), second computer system unit (application program and other virtual device drivers, col 3, ln 15-38/col 4, ln 21-42), an initial request(call information request, col 1, ln 54-67/ request, col 4, ln 1-12/ calling program, col 3, ln 35-65/ the call, col 4, ln 21-42), said received information stored in said memory before the receipt of said request /subsequent to said request (after registering with the registry 20, the virtual device drivers are available for call by calling

programs, col 3, ln 35-65/ After the call information, the applications program or calling virtual device driver can call the virtual device driver directly, col 3, ln 35-38/A registered information supply element responds to call information request from the application program, col 1, ln 64-67). When the virtual device 21 registers with the registry 20, the registry 20 stores the name and calling information in the registry 20 (col 3, ln 48-53). After that, this calling information is provided for call by the application program (col 3, ln 27-31). In the second “ registration phase 41, the registration 20, create an entry including identifier and calling information. Next the third “ operation” phase 42, the registration 20 provides the calling information in response to a request from an application programs (col 4, ln 1-11/ Fig. 3). Therefore, the received information stored in memory before the receipt on initial request.

Provino does not explicitly use the BIOS routine for receiving and transmitting the information, the information comprises at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information. However, Kang teaches the BIOS (the interface controller 70 including an interface BIOS, col 3, ln 65-67/ the key board controller 30, col 6, ln 44-48), at least one of status information and configuration information (the key code data corresponding to the radio signal, col 3, ln 43-47/ the data, col 6, ln 43-47/ key code data, col 4, ln 44-48), the use the BIOS routine for receiving and transmitting the information (col 1, ln 32-35/ ln 60-65/ col 2, ln 50-56/ col 3, ln 44-46/ col 4, ln 44-48/ col 6, ln 44-47/ col 8, ln 18-25).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Provino and Kang because Kang ’s the BIOS routine for receiving and transmitting the information, the information comprises at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information would improve the efficiency of

Provino's system by providing the BIOS for controlling the input data from external input device.

Provino and Kang does not explicitly teach at least one of received information stored in memory before the receipt of the initial request. However, Stancil teaches at least one of received information stored in memory before the receipt of the initial request (places that code in the data buffer 20 prior to a read request by the CPU 10, col 8, ln 10-15/ BIOS code may be retired from the serial PROM 68 either during or prior to the boot-up process, col 10, ln 25-27/ alternatively, upon power up but prior to boot-up by the CPU 10, the auto-configuring memory controller 72 owning the PROM 68 can auto-detect the base memory 18 and auto-configure itself so the it can copy the entire contents of the PROM 68 into a position of base memory 18 necessary to store the BIOS code, col 10, ln 45-50/ col 3, ln 30-35).

5. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Provino, Kang and Stancil because Stancil's at least one of received information stored in memory before the receipt of the initial request would improve the efficiency of Provino and Kang's systems by allowing the entire serial of device unit is read in one read operation eliminating random access to the device unit.

As to claim 2, Kang teaches unit information, system information, error information, status information, configuration information, and event information, error information, status information, configuration information event information (the key code data corresponding to the radio signal, col 3, ln 43-47/ the data, col 6, ln 43-47/ key code data, col 4, ln 44-48).

As to claim 5, Provino teaches the received information in a memory is according to a time of receipt of said information (at the initialization, the virtual device driver registering with the registry 20, col 3, ln 15-38).

As to claim 6, Provino teaches the receiving information stored in the memory before a receipt of said request (after registering with the registry 20, the virtual device driver are available for call by calling program, col 3, ln 15-38).

As to claims 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, 24, they are an apparatus claims of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6; therefore, they are rejected for the same reasons of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 above.

3. Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino et al (US. Patent 5,732,282) in view of Kang (US. Patent 6,064,368) in view of Stancil (US. Patent 5,951,685), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of PI (Persistor CF1 User's Manual BIOS Management Calls).

As to claims 3, 4, Provino teaches information (information, calling information, col 3, ln 15-38, col 4, ln 21-42).

12. Provino, Kang and Stancil do not teach an API for the receiving and providing information. However, PI teaches an API for the receiving and providing information (BIOSAPI, Page 4 of 7 and 5 of 7).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Provino, Kang, Stancil and PI because PI's BIOSAPI

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would increase the use of Provino, Kang and Stancil's systems by making computer system BIOS initialization more consistent with the operating environment.

As to claims 12, 13, 21, 22, they are apparatus claims of claims 3, 4; therefore, they are rejected for the same reasons as claims 3, 4 above.

4. Claims 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino et al (US. Patent 5,732,282) in view of Kang (US. Patent 6,064,368), in view of Stancil (US. Patent 5,951,685), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of OSR (Using The NT Registry for Driver Install).

As to claim 7, Provino teaches information (information, calling information, col 3, ln 15-38, col 4, ln 21-42).

Provino, Kang and Stancil do not teach a sequence number and an absolute time. However, OSR teaches a sequence number and an absolute time (Type value, start value, section: the keys, required values).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Provino, Kang, Stancil and OSR because OSR's Type value, start value, section would improve the efficiency of Provino, Kang Stancil's systems by allowing the system be able to correctly find, load and start a device.

As to claim 8, OSR teaches a categorized subset of all said received information (group, section: group).

As to claims 9, 16-18, 25-27, they are apparatus claims of claims 7, 8, 9; therefore, they are rejected for the same reasons as claims 7, 8, 9 above.

Conclusion

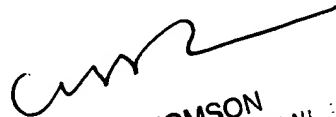
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LeChi Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272 3767. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomson, William can be reached on (571) 272 3718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIP. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIP system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197(toll-free).

LeChi Truong

January 4, 2006


WILLIAM THOMSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER